

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(b)(1), please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the paragraph that begins “Fig. 3 is the view of . . .”, which was added in the paper filed by Applicant on December 10, 1999.

Please delete the paragraph that begins “Fig. 4 is the view of . . .”, which was added in the paper filed by Applicant on December 10, 1999.

Please delete the paragraph that begins “Fig. 5 is the view of . . .”, which was added in the paper filed by Applicant on December 10, 1999.

Please delete the paragraph that begins “The present invention is . . .”, which was added in the paper filed by Applicant on December 10, 1999.

Please replace the two paragraphs that begin beneath the “DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:” heading on page with the following two paragraphs:

The pond cover comprises a plurality of generally rectangular casings 1 linked together. The number and size of the casings 1 will vary depending upon the size of the pond 10 to be covered, and the casings 1 are arranged in as many rows as are needed. Generally each casing 1 will be about seven and one-half feet wide and approximately forty feet long. Each casing 1 is filled with a layer of insulation 3 and then sealed at either end and along either side by a fusion weld 4. The casings 1 are made of geomembrane (a high density polyethylene material).

Adjacent casings 1 are linked together in overlapping spaced relationship by means of a grommet and cable system. Each casing 1 is provided with a plurality of grommets 5 at either end and along either side, positioned outside of the welded area 4 so as not to break the seal. The total number of grommets 5 per casing 1 can vary. After the grommets 5 of adjacent casings 1 are lined up in vertical spaced relationship to each other, a cable 7 is passed through the openings

of the grommets 5, is formed into a loop above the panels 1 and is secured in position by a cable clamp 11 attached to the cable 7 beneath the casings 1. A heavy tie-down cable 12 is then passed through all the loops of the cables 7 in the row and is secured at either end to an anchor post 20 such as a concrete deadhead, in a conventional manner such as tying the cable 12 to a rod with a nut at either end and securing the cable 12 with a cable clamp. If wind getting underneath the cover is a problem, additional cables can be passed through the cable loops 7 perpendicular to cable 12 at either end and in the middle of the series of casings 1.